

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)	
)	Group Art Unit: Unknown
Eddy Van Beek)	
)	
Serial No. 09/753,381)	Examiner: Not yet assigned
)	
Filed: January 2, 2001)	
)	
For: METHOD FOR IMPROVING THE)	
ACTIVITIES OF ENZYMES)	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application for United States Letters Patent, kindly enter the following amendment relative to examination of the present application.

AMENDMENTS

In the Specification:

Below the title of the application, kindly insert the following priority claim as a separate paragraph prior to the paragraph identified as the background of invention:

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/173,945, filed December 30, 1999.



REMARKS

The application has been amended to include a priority claim. Great care has been taken to avoid the introduction of new subject matter into the application as a result of the foregoing modification.

The Examiner is respectfully urged to call the undersigned attorney at (515) 288-2500 to discuss the claims in an effort to reach a mutual agreement with respect to claim limitations in the present application which will be effective to define the patentable subject matter if the present claims are not deemed to be adequate for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/20/0/

Timothy G. Hofneyer Registration No. 46,777

DAVIS, BROWN, KOEHN, SHORS & ROBERTS, P.C. 666 Walnut St., Suite 2500

Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Telephone: (515) 288-2500

ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANT